

N. C. State Bureau of Investigation

Methamphetamine Laboratory Response Protocol

- 1. When a Methamphetamine Laboratory is discovered by a law enforcement agency, the SBI District Field office for that area is contacted and a request is made for assistance from the Clandestine Laboratory Response Program.**
- 2. An agent with the Clandestine Laboratory Response Program then coordinates the response for the processing of the scene. This includes a crime laboratory chemist, crime scene personnel, and additional trained law enforcement officers as needed based on the size of the laboratory operation. The Clandestine Laboratory Response Program agent will serve as the site safety officers as required by federal regulations and provide all necessary personal protective equipment to safely process the crime scene.**
- 3. After the crime scene is processed and evidence samples are collected, the site safety officer will assist in the coordination of a commercial contractor to dispose of those items of evidence that are deemed hazardous and cannot be placed into conventional evidence holding facilities.**
- 4. At the completion of all crime scene operations, the residence or structure will be posted by the Site Safety officer with a written warning that states “while known hazardous chemicals have been disposed of pursuant to law, there still may be hazardous substances or waste products on the property.”**
- 5. Evidence samples are taken to the crime laboratory for analysis and confirmation of the manufacturing process by a forensic chemist.**
- 6. The Clandestine Laboratory Response Program will notify the property owner by registered mail that a clandestine drug laboratory was located on their property and the associated hazardous related to that discovery.**
- 7. The local Health Department is also notified by letter of the location of the drug laboratory and the date it was discovered. Additional information related to specific chemicals identified at the scene is also available to the property owner and the Health Department upon request. Other information related to injuries and exposure is shared with the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services.**
- 8. The lab discovery is also entered into the El Paso Intelligence Center’s Clandestine Laboratory Database for national tracking of drug lab events.**
- 9. Response personnel information is also collected for the Medical Surveillance Program to track exposures to known hazardous chemicals and environments.**